

Airworthiness Directive

Issued: 08 October 2021

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 129 of that Regulation.

This AD is issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex J, Part M.A.301, the continuing airworthiness of an aircraft shall be ensured by accomplishing any applicable ADs. Consequently, no person may operate an aircraft to which an AD applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that AD, unless otherwise specified by the Agency [Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex J, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name: AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Type/Model designation(s): AS 350 and EC 130 helicopters

- Effective Date: Revision 1: 15 October 2021 Original issue: 03 September 2021
- TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.008
- Foreign AD: Not applicable

Revision: This AD revises EASA AD 2021-0194 dated 20 August 2021, which superseded EASA AD 2015-0132 dated 08 July 2015. This revised AD also supersedes DGAC France AD F-2005-158 (EASA approval 2005-6222) dated 14 September 2005.

ATA 05 – Time Limits / Maintenance Checks – Airworthiness Limitations Section – Amendment

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH), formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France, Aerospatiale

Applicability

AS 350 B, AS 350 BA, AS 350 BB, AS 350 B1, AS 350 B2, AS 350 B3, AS 350 D, EC 130 B4 and EC 130 T2 helicopters, all serial numbers.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definitions apply:

The applicable ALS: AH AS 350 and EC 130 Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) Chapter 04, Airworthiness Limitations Section (ALS) Revision 006 (for AS 350 B, AS 350 BA, AS 350 BB, AS 350 B1 and AS 350 D helicopters), Revision 013 (for AS 350 B2 and AS 350 B3 helicopters), Revision 012 (for EC 130 B4 helicopters) and Revision 010 (for EC 130 T2 helicopters), as applicable.

The AMP: The approved Aircraft Maintenance Programme (AMP), on the basis of which the operator or the owner ensures the continuing airworthiness of each operated aeroplane. For



affected AS 350 and EC 130 helicopters operated under EU regulation, compliance with the approved AMP is required by Commission Regulation (EU) <u>1321/2014</u>, Part M.A.301, paragraph (c).

New and/or more restrictive tasks: This includes all tasks and limitations that are new or for which a threshold and/or interval was reduced, which were introduced into the applicable ALS (as defined in this AD) since the previous ALS Revision that is currently incorporated in the AMP.

Reason:

The airworthiness limitations for AS 350 and EC 130 helicopters, which are approved by EASA, are currently defined and published in the AH AS 350 and EC 130 ALS documents. These instructions have been identified as mandatory for continued airworthiness.

Failure to accomplish these instructions could result in an unsafe condition.

EASA previously issued AD 2015-0132, requiring the actions described in AH AS 350 and EC 130 AMM Chapter 04, ALS at Revision 002 for AS 350 B, AS 350 BA, AS 350 BB, AS 350 D, AS 350 B1 and EC 130 T2, and at Revision 005 for AS 350 B2, AS 350 B3 and EC 130 B4.

Since that AD was issued, AH published the applicable ALS, which contains new and/or more restrictive tasks.

For the reason described above, EASA issued AD 2021-0194, retaining the requirements of EASA AD 2015-0132, which was superseded, to require accomplishment of the actions specified in the applicable ALS. That AD also took over the requirements for AS 350 and EC 130 models from EASA AD 2010-0006 and EASA AD 2015-0094, the requirements of which have been incorporated into the applicable ALS. Separately, EASA issued AD 2021-0193 for the latest ALS Revision(s) for AS 355 helicopters, taking over the relevant requirements from EASA AD 2010-0006 and AD 2015-0094. Consequently, those two ADs are cancelled.

Since EASA AD 2021-0194 was issued, it was determined that all requirements of DGAC France AD F-2005-158 (EASA approval 2005-6222), regarding specific tail rotor drive shaft maintenance actions, have also been incorporated into the applicable ALS. This AD is revised accordingly, superseding that AD.

Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Maintenance Tasks and Replacement of Life Limited Parts:

- (1) From 03 September 2021 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD], accomplish the following actions, as specified in the applicable ALS, as applicable to helicopter model and depending on helicopter configuration:
 - (1.1) Replace each component before exceeding the applicable life limit, and
 - (1.2) Within the thresholds and intervals as defined in the applicable ALS, accomplish all applicable maintenance tasks.



Corrective Action(s):

(2) In case of finding discrepancies (as defined in the applicable ALS) during accomplishment of any task as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, within the compliance time specified in the applicable ALS, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the applicable AH maintenance documentation. If no compliance time is identified in the applicable ALS, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) before next flight. If a detected discrepancy is not identified in the applicable ALS, before next flight, contact AH for approved instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly.

AMP Revision:

(3) Within 12 months after 03 September 2021 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD], revise the approved AMP by incorporating the limitations, tasks and associated thresholds and intervals described in the applicable ALS, as applicable to helicopter model and depending on helicopter configuration.

Credit:

(4) If, before 03 September 2021 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD], the AMP has been revised to incorporate the maintenance tasks and life limitations as specified in a previous revision of the AH AMM Chapter 04 ALS, that action ensures the continued accomplishment of those tasks and limitations.

Consequently, for a helicopter to which that AMP applies, it is acceptable to accomplish the new and/or more restrictive tasks and limitations as specified in the applicable ALS, as applicable to helicopter model and depending on helicopter configuration, within the compliance times as specified in the applicable ALS to comply with paragraph (1) of this AD.

For that AMP, it is acceptable to incorporate the new and/or more restrictive tasks and limitations as specified in the applicable ALS, as applicable to helicopter model and depending on helicopter configuration, into the AMP to comply with paragraph (3) of this AD.

Recording AD Compliance:

(5) When the AMP of a helicopter has been revised as required by paragraph (3) or (4) of this AD, as applicable, that action ensures continued accomplishment of the tasks as required by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this AD for that helicopter. Consequently, after revising the AMP, as required by paragraph (3) or (4) of this AD, as applicable, it is not necessary that accomplishment of individual action is recorded for demonstration of AD compliance on a continued basis.

Ref. Publications:

AH AS 350 B AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 006 dated 28 September 2020.

AH AS 350 B1 AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 006 dated 28 September 2020.

AH AS 350 BB AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 006 dated 28 September 2020.

AH AS 350 BA AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 006 dated 28 September 2020.



AH AS 350 D AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 006 dated 28 September 2020.

AH AS 350 B2 AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 013 dated 05 April 2021.

AH AS 350 B3 AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 013 dated 05 April 2021.

AH EC 130 T2 AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 010 dated 05 April 2021.

AH EC 130 B4 AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 012 dated 05 April 2021.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

- 1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
- 2. The original issue of this AD was posted on 09 July 2021 as PAD 21-098 for consultation until 06 August 2021. No comments were received during the consultation period.
- 3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: <u>ADs@easa.europa.eu</u>.
- 4. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the <u>EU aviation safety</u> reporting system. This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this AD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.
- For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters Customer Support, Telephone +33 (0)4.42.85.97.89, Fax + 33 (0)4.42.85.99.66, E-mail: <u>Airframe.Technical-Support@airbus.com</u>, Keycopter Technical Request Management: <u>TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com</u>.

